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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: PETROVIC, Zmaj

SERIAL NO.: (International Appn No. PCT/FR03/01148)

FILED: (Intl. Filing Date 11 April 2003)

TITLE: CONVEYOR UNIT WITH ACCUMULATION OF RECEPTACLES SUCH AS BOTTLES

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In conjunction with the filing of the present application, and prior to an initial Official Action on this matter, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Please note that the following amendments apply to the attached specification and claims labeled for U.S. filing. This combined application incorporates the original application and any annex to the International Application in the proper order, including the correct original and substitute pages, claims and drawing sheets.

Preliminary Amendment: SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

In Paragraph [0008], please amend the paragraph as follows:

[0008] If ~~we consider~~ the particular case of an accumulation table of the type as described in WO-00/41955 is considered, it has a large capacity of passive accumulation of receptacles. However, its length associated, downstream, with that of a passive aligner for these receptacles, the aim of which is to convey the latter in one single row towards a next processing unit, most often proves too large for this aggregate to find its place in a production chain.

In Paragraph [0016], please amend the paragraph as follows:

[0016] Figure 1 is a schematic view of the conveyor unit of the present invention.